Highlights of Agricultural Sector's Plan

323. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the highlights of Agricultural Sector's plan for 1997-98;

(b) whether financial allocations are adequate to meet the various targets; and

(c) if not what is the Government's thinking to meet this shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The Agricultural Sector's plan for 1997-98 lays emphasis on improving productivity and production of foodgrains and other commercial crops, primarily through specific crop-oriented programmes and developing areas of untapped potential in the Eastern and North Eastern States and as also rainfed areas, promoting balanced use of fertilizers, proper seed planning and distribution, promoting Integrated Pest Management, revitalising and strengthening of cooperatives for providing credit, inputs and infrastructural support to the farmers, promotion of horticulture crops and fisheries.

(b) and (c) An outlay of Rs. 1519 crores has been provided for the Annual Plan 1997-98 of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. This is less than he outlay proposed by the Department for 1997-98. An effort will be made to achieve the various objectives through optimum utilisation of the financial allocations. The position will be reviewed at the time of formulation of revised estimates for 1997-98.

News item Captioned "Ministry Allays Fear over Exotic weeds in Australia Wheat"

324. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a news item entitled "Ministry allays fear over exotic weeds in Australian wheat" which appeared in 'Economic Times' dated 20th May, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has taken up this issue with the supplier; and

(d) if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Technical requirements as per the provisions of Plants, Fruits and Seeds (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 1989 in respect of freedom of imported wheat from notified Plant Quarantine objects had been met in the imported wheat and fully ansured by the Plant Quyarantine officers before recommending release of imported wheat from Australia. Stringent Plant Quarantine measures taken during inspection of imported wheat had revealed the prasance of a few weed seeds. In order to ensure, weed seeds do not get established in our soil, Department of Food Procurement and Distribution, Ministry of Food was broadly advised as under:—

(1) Imported wheat should be distributed in non-wheat growing areas.

(2) The imported wheat should not be moved to any of the wheat growing areas in the North.

(c) and (d) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Subsidy on seeds supplied to the Farmers

325. SHRI RAMADAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing or propose to provide subsidy on seeds supplied to the farmers to raise the agricultural production;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly in Rajasthan and Orissa; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir, The Government is providing subsidy of certified seeds supplied to the farmers to raise the agricultural production at present.

(b) Details about subsidy on seed distribution is given in the statement *(see below)*

(c) Does not arise.

Subsidy on Seeds Distribution

A. *Crop development scheme:*

Centrally Sponsored Schemes called Integrated Cereal Development Programmes (ICDP) are being implemented in different cropping systems areas such as ICDP—Rice (17 States/UTs), ICDP—Wheat (6 States), ICDP—Cereals (6 States), Intensive Cotton Development Programme (11 States), and Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP) 100% GOI Assistance in 8 States. In these schemes the funding is generally provided by GOI and State Governments in the ratio of 75:25.

Rajasthan is covered under ICDP-Wheat, ICDP-Coarse Cereals, TMOP and Intensive Cotton Development Programme. Orissa is covered under IDCP—Rice, SJDP, TMOP and Intensive Cotton Development Programme.

Under these programmes incentives for verietal replacement and propagation of new technology are being provided as follows:—

Name of Scheme	
1. *ICDP-Wheat*	
Assistance on certified seed distribution	1. Rs. 200/q. on High Yielding Varieties seeds on Wheat, rice and Barley. 2. Rs. 400/-q. on Coarse Cereals (Excluding Maize.) 3. Rs. 500/-q. on hybrid rice seeds notified during last 10 years.
2. *ICDP-Course Cereals:* Assistance on certified seed distribution	Rs. 200/-q HYV seed of Rice, 1. Wheat, Barley. Rs. 400/-q on HYV seed of Jowar, 2. Bajra, Ragi and Small millets. Rs. 1000/-q on Hybrids of Jowar 3. and Bajra Seeds
3. *ICDP-Rice:* Assistance Seed Distribution	1. Rs. 200/-q HYV seed of Rice, Wheat, and Barley. 2. Rs. 400/-q on HYV seed of Millets. 3. Rs. 500/-q on Hybrids Rice for 10 years old varieties.
4. *SJDP*	1. An assistance of 25% of the cost limited to Rs. 600/g. for distribution of certified seeds of jute and quality seeds Mesta and Sunhemp. 2. Rs. 600/g. for distribution of quality rhizome of recognised standard varieties of Ramie (fibre crop).

5. *Intensive Cotton Development Programme:* Distribution of certified seed	*1-10 years old verieties* 1. 25% of the cost of seed limited to Rs. 300/g. on mechanically delinted and Rs. 400/g. on acid delinted certified seeds. *10—15 years old varieties* Rs. 250/g. on mechanically/acid 2. delinted certified seeds.

6. *Technology Mission on Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize:*

TMOP is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Oil Seeds Production Programme (OPP) 9 National Pulses Development Project (NPDP). in both the schemes assistance is being provided to the States as also to the Central Agencies like NSC & SFCI:—

OPP & NPDP

Distribution of certified Seeds	Rs. 300 per qtl. for the crops covered under these schemes.

B. Scheme-wise allocation of funds for distribution of certified seeds during 1997-98 for Rajasthan and Orissa is as follows:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Schemes	*Rajasthan*	*Orissa*
1. ICDP—Rice	Not covered	650.00
2. ICDP—Wheat	15.40	Not covered
3. ICDP—Coarse Cereals	243.00	Not covered
4. Intensive Cotton Development Programme	49.28	4.20
5. SJDP	Not covered	12.30
6. OPP	130.00	100.00
7. NPDP	40.00	20.00

एक प्रौद्योगिकी मिशन की स्थापना

326. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विश्व के अन्य देशों की तुलना में भारत में कपास की खेती हेतु भूमि सबसे अधिक है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि इसके बावजूद भी अन्य देशों में कपास के उत्पादन की तुलना में भारत में कपास का उत्पादन सबसे कम है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो विश्व में कपास की अधिकतम औसत और न्यूनतम उत्पादन-दर कितनी-कितनी है तथा भारत में इसकी औसत उत्पादन-दर कितनी है;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने भारत में उपर्युक्त उत्पादन दर में वृद्धि करने के लिए किसी प्रौद्योगिकी मिशन को स्थापित करने का निश्चय किया है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उपर्युक्त मिशन कब तक कार्य करना आरम्भ कर देगा?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० एस० वेणुगोपालाचारी): (क) जी हां।

(ख) जी नहीं। विश्व में कपास के उत्पादन में भारत का स्थान तीसरा है।

(ग) 1993, 1994 और 1995 के दौरान विश्व के प्रमुख देशों में कपास की अधिकतम, औसत और न्यूनतम उत्पादकता तथा भारत में इसकी औसत उत्पादकता निम्नानुसार है:—